

than a...worse than an alcohol habit that is potentially much more life threatening than the procurement of alcohol from a similar liquor establishment. I think you may be onto something with having what I...what I believe to be stiffer penalties than we have currently for liquor violations. Again, though the ultimate impact of this would be a straight out ban because I think that the competition within the liquor industry is such that a 30-day suspension would simply put a licensee out of business. And if that's the intent, that's fine, but I think if that is the intent, we should probably get back to the original language of the bill. I would urge you to oppose the Chambers amendment at this point. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Will. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President and members of the Legislature, as Senator Moore pointed out, if adults choose to do something and want to assume the risk of it, let them, as long as they're not hurting anybody else. We're talking about children this morning. I wish there were some way, Senator Moore, to protect people from themselves because you know what happens when people get cancer. I'm sure we've all heard those flippant remarks that people make who are smoking and the question comes up whether or not they may get cancer and they say, well, you've got to die from something. But then when the cancer strikes, Senator Moore, and I know this for a fact, not from my personal experience, they don't have that attitude of bravado anymore. And the family does suffer with that person. There is the denial, the rejection of it, then the depression, then the anger, why me, then finally the acceptance, then the death, if they don't find some way or something doesn't happen that cures or puts the cancer into remission. So we're talking literally about life or death this morning. It goes beyond whether or not the entrepreneurial spirit is so important in this state that these people must be allowed to sell death as a sideline. Their main source of income is not going to be cigarettes that they're selling to minors, unless what we're being told by the opposition this morning that they expect a substantial amount of the money they get from these machines to be provided by minors who are going to make the purchase. Senator Will is correct when he said that tobacco is more dangerous than alcohol. It is the most addictive drug in this society and it does kill more people than alcohol or any other substance legal or illegal, or the homicides. We've got before us something that is doing that much damage and people can stand